

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk
www.carpenderspark.org.uk



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 12th November 2023

Fr John Warnaby Parish Priest Tel: 0208 428 0088
Linda Grimes Parish Administrator Tel: 0208 428 0088
Office hours: Tuesday & Friday 9am-3pm

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 11th November	Vigil: 32nd Sunday	6.00pm	Tom Conlon RIP
Sunday 12th November	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.30am	James Loftus RIP
Tuesday 14th November	feria	7.00pm	Donna Hardiman RIP
Wednesday 15th November	feria	11.00am	Funeral Mass Breda Manczak RIP
Thursday 16th November	St Edmund of Abingdon	9.15am	John Harkin RIP
Friday 17th November	feria	9.15am	Jim Kinsella RIP
			followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 18th November	Vigil: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	Fr Tim O'Connor RIP

CONFESSIONS Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John

When booking a Mass Intention please leave plenty of time if you want a special date.

Liturgy of the Word: 12th November 2023

Entrance Antiphon: Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord

Responsorial Psalm: For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
Stay awake and stand ready,
because you do not know hour when the Son of Man is coming
Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 Psalm 127 1Thessalonians 5:1-6 Matthew 14--30

Our Gospel this week tells the story of the bridesmaids who are caught by surprise by the sudden arrival of the bridegroom at night and find they have no oil to keep their lamps burning.

The Gospel invites us to have oil for our own lamps; that is, to be always ready for the coming of the Lord. He appears in moments and ways we do not expect and at all times throughout our day. The foolish virgins failed to anticipate when and how the Lord would come to them, and they were not prepared. So often we, too, get caught up in a thousand affairs and worries, and we can miss what is essential. We miss the presence of Christ in the people around us, in the circumstances in which we are living. Sometimes, Christ comes to us through some sacrifice or suffering; but we do not recognize him in it. We need to strengthen our faith to see how the Lord appears in our lives. We need to perceive God's presence in the little things of each day and never let the opportunity to love and serve him pass us by. Our faith must be ready and watching for him.

"The Bridegroom is the Lord, and the time of waiting for his arrival is the time he gives to all of us, before his Final Coming with mercy and patience; it is a time of watchfulness; a time in which we must keep alight the lamps of faith, hope and charity, a time in which to keep our heart open to goodness, beauty and truth. It is a time to live in accordance with God, because we do not know either the day or the hour of Christ's return. What he asks of us is to be ready for the encounter: for a beautiful encounter; the encounter with Jesus, which means being able to see the signs of his presence, keeping our faith alive with prayer and with the sacraments." (Pope Francis)

Second Collection: Sick & Retired Priests

Thank you for your generosity last weekend. £280 was collected

Breda Manczak RIP

Breda's funeral Mass will be on **Wednesday 15th November at 11am**. There will be no 9:15 Mass on that day.



Senior Citizens Christmas Party – Saturday 25th November 12:30-5pm

The Catholic Women's League CWL is holding a Senior Citizens Christmas party again this year. It will be held in our parish hall. Places are limited to 80 and are free of charge!

Forms are available from the back of Church.

Please return the completed forms by Sunday 19th November to St Joseph's Church.

* **Lots of hands are needed to help out on the day**

Please contact Pauline James 01923 231 261 or Ann Farrell on 01923 242 314 for any offers of help.

Christmas cards for sale in the Repository.

Come and browse as we have had a re-stock and there are many other new items for sale.

Upper Room Leadership programme

The closing date for the Upper Room Leadership Programme is **16th November**. This 8 month programme, starting in December, is open to **young people 18-23** of age who are interested in growing in discipleship, spiritual formation, and practical training, culminating in the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. It's an opportunity to journey with 20 other young Catholics in developing your unique vocation, gifts and identity in community. See poster on the side wall or visit <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/programmes/upper-room-leadership-programme/>

Online talks –Jubilee 2025: Year of the Council and The Prayers and Gospels at Christmas

Fr Brian O'Mahony will be giving an online talk on *Tuesday 28th Nov at 7.30-8.30pm* (Jubilee 2025)

Fr John Deehan has a series of 4 online talks on *Thursdays 7.30-8.30pm starting on 23rd November* (The Prayers and Gospels of Christmas) .

Suggested donation of £5 per talk. To register contact Warren Brown on catadmin@rcdow.org.uk. See posters at the back at Church.

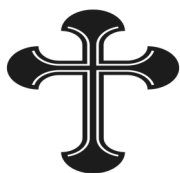
Aid to the Church in Need Christmas Carol Service.

Celebrate Christ's coming with uplifting, traditional music by The Schola Cantorum of the London Oratory School, conducted by Charles Cole with organ and brass ensemble. Free entry: a collection will be taken for ACN's work with persecuted Christians. **Wednesday 13th December 7-8pm at The Oratory**, Brompton Road, London, SW7 2RP. Book via <https://acnuk.org/event/christmas-carol-service-festive-reception-2023/>

Parish Hall for Rent

The parish hall is available for groups who are interested in renting on a regular, weekly basis.

Please speak with Fr John or contact Linda in the parish office (carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk) should this be of interest.



November is the Month of the HOLY SOULS

Please complete the white forms with the names of any Deceased family members or friends whom you wish to be remembered at Masses during the month of November.

Enclose the form in the dedicated brown envelope *with a Mass offering*.

Then post in the wooden box at the back of Church.

Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers especially Bebe Ryan, Dawn Tannian, Phil Carey, Alice Sheppard, Christine Kempster, Richard Bailey, Kathleen Andrews and Dave Jessop.

Offertory for 5th November

Loose £ 322.43

Envelopes £ 266.83

Total £ 589.26

Many thanks